Gujarat during the last three years by the Narcotics Control Bureau(NCB), year-wise are as under:

Sl.No.	Year	No. of cases
1.	1997	1
2.	1998	4
3.	1999	7

(b) There is no concrete evidence to indicate that Ahmedabad city is turning out to be a centre for mandrax, brown sugar and charas. However, owing to its proximity to Golden Crescent, Gujarat State is vulnerable to drug trafficking.

(c) There is no shortage of intelligence staff in this region. Apart from NCB, the State and Central Enforcement Agencies already deployed in the Gujarat State are fully empowered to enforce the provisions of NDPS Act, 1985.

(d) Significant steps taken by the Government to prevent and check drug trafficking include constant vigil, stepping up of enforcement efforts, fencing with flood lighting of Indo-Pak Border, vesting of powers under the Customs Act to the Border Security Force and Coast Guards to interdict narcotic drugs. Stringent action is taken against the arrested persons under NDPS Act, 1985.

Recovery of loan from Modern Denim and Modern Syntex

2031. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Modern Denim and Modern Syntex owe crores of rupees of loan from Banks, UTI etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to recover the loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Financial Institutions and Banks have extended loans to different companies of Modern Group and there is a default in repaying the outstanding overdues of lenders. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions

as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983 company-specific information cannot be divulged.

Recruitment of Ex-Servicemen in LIC, Dehradun

†2032. PROF. RAM BAKHSH SINGH VARMA:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been discrimination against ex-servicemen in the examination held for the recruitment of Assistants in Life Insurance Corporation Division of Dehradun under Kanpur Zone;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of ex-servicemen recruited as Assistants in the said division during the last three years; and

(d) the criterion fixed for reservation for the said post for ex-servicemen during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No recruitment of Assistants has been conducted in Kanpur Zone during last five years.

(d) As per the instructions of Government of India, 14-1/2% posts in Class III cadres are reserved for ex- servicemen, if sufficient number of selected candidates are available.

Haul of Heroin

2033. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

whether Pak link has been revealed in the biggest haul of heroin in December, 1999; and

(b) if so, the action taken to take up the matter with Pakistan to control drug smuggling in the country?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.